

PARIS
JEWELLERS

GREAT CANADIAN
1 CARAT DIAMOND Ring
\$3499



.05 ctw
earrings
\$129

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM PARIS JEWELLERS
PARISJEWELLERS.CA

Edmonton metro



GIFT IDEA
These overlooked books are worth a read
metroLIFE

Your essential daily news | THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2016

High 2°C/Low -8°C Pretty cloudy



HECTIC FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Surviving the busiest airport day of the year
metroNEWS

KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

Bar accused of profiling

RANCH ROADHOUSE

Owner said bouncers denied group entry based on dress code



Jeremy Simes
Metro | Edmonton

An Edmonton bar owner is defending his staff in light of allegations a customer has made about his bouncers refusing to admit people based on skin colour.

Raegan Aleman said she was waiting in line Saturday night to enter the Ranch Roadhouse, located on Calgary Trail, when she said she overheard an argument between the group of about half-a-dozen men ahead of her and the club's bouncers.

She said bouncers told the men they didn't meet the bar's dress code and couldn't enter.

But she said the men were wearing the same clothing as almost everyone else: jeans and T-shirts. She said their clothing was visible, as most weren't wearing jackets and those that were had them

unzipped or had taken them off.

She said she noted most of the line was white like her but the men being denied entry were people of colour.

"One of the guys said, 'You're being racist and you're not letting us in because we're not white,'" she said.

Aleman told the story on Facebook, in a post that's been shared more than 4,000 times.

Jesse Kupina, co-owner of the Ranch Roadhouse, said the story is "heartbreaking," but maintains his staff doesn't racially profile. "If there was ever a situation of someone acting racist then they wouldn't be with our company," he said.

Kupina said bouncers denied the men entry because one was "acting aggressive," after they told him his attire wasn't appropriate. He couldn't provide Metro with the dress code the group violated, but said patrons at the country-themed bar generally can't wear steel-toed boots, bandanas, gang-affiliated apparel, or have dirty clothing.

After the incident, Aleman said all but one of the men left. She said that man was eventually let in. "I just want some sort of justice for (that) group," she said.

Give the gift of delicious coffee

Order by December 22 for early January delivery
headlinecoffee.ca



At *Denny Andrews* **We make it EASY!**

NEED A CAR?

2016 FOCUS

#16FC028

MSRP \$22,684

DENNY'S EASY
PRICING

WOW! \$16,899!



THIS IS A
NEW VEHICLE
NOT A DEMO!

2017 EXPLORER

#17EX032

MSRP \$39,339

DENNY'S EASY
PRICING

\$34,796!



THIS IS A
NEW VEHICLE
NOT A DEMO!

NEED A TRUCK?

2016 F150 SUPERCAB 4X4

#16FL050

MSRP \$43,799

DENNY'S EASY
PRICING

\$29,989!



THIS IS A
NEW VEHICLE
NOT A DEMO!

2016 F150 SUPERCREW 4X4

#16FS603

MSRP \$46,299

DENNY'S EASY
PRICING

\$30,994!



THIS IS A
NEW VEHICLE
NOT A DEMO!

**25%
OFF!!**

2016 F350 SUPERCREW 4X4 LARIAT ULTIMATE WITH TURBO DIESEL

#16FH618

MSRP \$82,509



THIS IS A
NEW VEHICLE
NOT A DEMO!

DENNY'S EASY
PRICING

\$61,882!



Denny Andrews



182 ST. & STONY PLAIN ROAD 780-489-9999

TOLL FREE:
1-800-252-9303

www.dennyandrewsford.com

SERVICE DIRECT:
930-3167

OPEN MONDAY-THURSDAY 9-9, FRIDAY 9-7, SATURDAY 9-6, SUNDAY 11-5

All offers and prices reflect all rebates and incentives deducted and assigned to dealer including non-stackable cash, Year End event cash, and Costco. Customer must meet eligibility requirements. In stock only. 25% off based on MSRP. Plus applicable taxes. See dealer for details. Vehicle may not be exactly as illustrated. Offer in effect Wednesday, December 21st thru Saturday, December 24th, 2016.





Learning English critical to integrating refugees

ONE YEAR IN

Part 2 of our series about Syrians in Edmonton



Alex Boyd
Metro | Edmonton

Basel Abou Hamrah got to work. The Syrian couple was in their early 70s, and had just arrived in Edmonton. They didn't speak English, couldn't talk to their sponsor and spent much of their time alone.

So first, Abou Hamrah enrolled the couple in an English class for seniors. Then he sorted out a ride to the downtown centre where they were held. For good measure, he also signed them up for a choir so they'd meet more people.

"Once they are in the class, they are so happy to be in the class, they are very interested to know the language," Abou Hamrah said.

Abou Hamrah is a community connector with the Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers, which has played a big role in helping refugees make a home in the city.

It's been a challenging year for the roughly 1,500 Syrian refugees who started arriving in Edmonton last December. One of the biggest hurdles has been learn-



Basel Abou Hamrah arrived as a refugee from Syria a year ago, and now works to help his fellow refugees get to English classes. KEVIN TUONG / FOR METRO

ing English, a necessary step to find a job or make friends.

As many reach the one-year mark it's now more urgent. Federal supports often dry up after 12 months.

Abou Hamrah was among the first Syrian refugees to come to Edmonton with his family last December.

He enrolled in English classes right away, but he had learned some English in Syria so it wasn't long before he was fluent. He got a job with the Mennonite Centre and now focuses on helping his fellow refugees with the language.

The struggle for Syrian refugees to learn English goes beyond

learning nouns and verbs: Classes have long line-ups, getting to classes is often a challenge and parents often lack childcare.

That's where Abou Hamrah often comes in.

As the wife of the 70-something couple recently traced As, Bs and Cs in a notebook she turned to Abou Hamrah and

said it was the first time she'd ever used a pen — in Arabic or English.

"She was so happy," Abou Hamrah said, smiling at the memory. "I said, 'We did something.'"

In the past year, Abou Hamrah said many of the people he's worked with have progressed from speaking zero English to having the confidence to use transit and say hello to people they meet.

Mohamed Huque, the executive director of the Islamic Family and Social Services said it takes a long time to learn any language.

"But there are other elements to this as well," he said. "If they're just practicing a few hours a day, or if they're not participating or volunteering or doing things where they're using the language, it takes longer."

As the one-year point approaches, many Syrian refugees are now faced with the tough decision of whether to stay with classes or go out and find a job with the skills they have.

+ PART THREE

Tomorrow: It's a tough market for any job seeker, but coming from a different culture with a different language makes it that much harder. We look at the challenges facing refugees looking for jobs.

SAFETY

City tests cameras on buses



Jeremy Simes
Metro | Edmonton

Edmonton Transit will begin testing new camera technology on buses that could give drivers a better view, after a young girl was struck and killed by a bus in a marked crosswalk last month.

Judith Jackson, 62, was charged Tuesday with failing to yield to a pedestrian in a crosswalk, in connection with the death of 13-year-old Mariama Sillah. Jackson is the fourth Edmonton Transit driver to be charged after fatally hitting a pedestrian in the city since 2006.

Two of those collisions occurred in the last three months.

"To put this in perspective, these are two tragic and separate incidents," said city spokeswoman Janice Schroeder on Wednesday. "We move thousands of people over thousands of kilometres every single day."

It's unclear why 2016 saw two fatal collisions. Schroeder said the city doesn't track the number of pedestrians using crosswalks so it's hard to determine if more people are walking.

She said that overall, Edmonton's roads have become safer.

But Steve Bradshaw — president of the Amalgamated Transit Union Local 569, which represents Edmonton Transit drivers — wants change.

He said the bus mirror, driver-side pillar by the windshield, and the front door can make it difficult for bus drivers to see pedestrians.



From Edmonton and beyond.

We have over 100 locations to serve you.

We can help.



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22 TO SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2016

The Gift of JOCKEY

*Save
\$10*

*JOCKEY
underwear and tops
with Staynew
Technology*

Includes all 3- and 4-pack
Active and Classic styles.
See below for details.

25% off

other JOCKEY
underwear, tops and
thermalwear
for men

Featured:
Active Blend
3-pack
boxer briefs.
Reg. \$44
Sale \$34

HUDSON'S BAY

SHOP THEBAY.COM

Savings for all offers are off our regular prices, unless otherwise specified. Men's Jockey underwear with Staynew include styles 7895, 7896, 7897, 7892, 7893, 7894, 7899, 7898, 7291, 7292, 7997, 7996, 7383 and 7384.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22 TO SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2016

The Gift of JOCKEY

\$9.99 *JOCKEY*
panties
Reg. \$12 to \$16



\$12.99
JOCKEY
Classics and Elance
3-pack panties
Select styles. Reg. \$24

25% off
other JOCKEY lingerie,
thermalwear, socks, pantyhose
and tights for women
See below for details.



Featured:
Cami #7455.
Reg. \$27
Sale \$20.50
Panties #7492.
Reg. \$16
Sale \$9.99

HUDSON'S BAY

SHOP THEBAY.COM

Savings for all offers are off our regular prices, unless otherwise specified. \$9.99 Jockey panties excludes styles 7820 and 7821. Jockey lingerie excludes styles 7820 and 7821, "2-for" offers and 3-pack packaged panties Reg. \$27 and \$29.

Airport gears up for busiest day of year

'HAPPY PLACE'

Flights will be packed as people travel for Christmas



Kevin Maimann
Metro | Edmonton

Prepare for long lines at the airport if you plan to leave town Friday.

Dec. 23 is shaping up to be the busiest day of the year for Edmonton travellers, as arrivals and departures will be crammed full of people reuniting with their families for Christmas.

"Especially when Christmas falls on a weekend, usually the Friday before Christmas is far and away (the busiest)," said Edmonton International Airport

spokesperson Heather Hamilton.

Arrivals will be especially packed as families show up to greet their loved ones. Statistically, the airport sees 2.2 people show up for every arrival, but that number spikes this week.

There's no need to be a Grinch about it, though. Hamilton said the airport is a great place to be if you want to lift your spirits.

"Lots of hugs and very excited people, kids jumping up and down and grandmas are coming

in and kids are coming home from school," Hamilton said. "It's a very happy place."

Dec. 27 and 28 are shaping up to be almost as busy as Dec. 23 this year, which Hamilton said is unusual.

While some will be coming home from Christmas trips on those days, others will be jetting off to warmer destinations. According to numbers from Expedia, Las Vegas is the top destination for people leaving Edmonton.



The Edmonton International Airport. KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

INFRASTRUCTURE

First 'green street' to traffic opens

The city's first "green street" is open to traffic, but cars will take a back seat.

The Armature, a 4.5-block stretch in the Quarters Downtown along 96 Street from 103A Avenue to Jasper Avenue, opened Wednesday after being closed for four years.

The new roadway features custom furniture, bike racks and lamp posts specifically designed to make the area pedestrian-friendly. Special soil systems will capture rainfall to help water trees and other vegetation along the street.

"(People) can expect to see really, really wide pedestrian sidewalks," said Mary Ann Debrinski, the city's director of urban renewal.

"The pedestrian is first priority, followed by cyclists, transit, and last priority is given to vehicles."

While the pedestrian-first approach is new to Edmonton, she said there will be similar projects to follow.

The Armature closed in 2012



(People) can expect to see really, really wide pedestrian sidewalks.

Mary Ann Debrinski

for work on a storm water drainage system, and construction on streetscape improvement started in 2014.

The Quarters is expected to be the heart of the Quarters district, which will be in development for another 10 to 20 years. One of its key components, a tower at 102A Avenue and 96 Street that will function as an art and living space for local artists, is "shovel ready" pending provincial and federal funding.

A highrise is also in the works on 96 Street and Jasper Avenue.

"Things will start to happen in 2017, absolutely," Debrinski said. KEVIN MAIMANN/METRO

Unbelievable Boxing Day savings, start now.

Hurry in!
Offer ends Dec 26th

Double the data, plus get our \$40 plan for only \$30 a month.

~~\$40~~
\$30 PER MONTH
FOR 10 MONTHS.

- 3GB of data + 3GB bonus*
- Unlimited Canada/U.S. talk
- Unlimited global text
- Low international calling starting at 1¢/minute

**Offer ends December 26th
DON'T MISS OUT!**



LG V20

Freedom
mobile

freedommobile.ca

Learn more at freedommobile.ca. Promo 40 plan and \$100 service credit offer are available until December 26, 2016, and are subject to change or cancellation without notice. *Bonus 3GB of data per month will only be applied to the plan until January 31, 2017. To be eligible for the \$100 service credit, you must activate a new Pay Before or Pay After line the Promo 40, Everywhere 45 or Everywhere 55 plan. A \$10 monthly credit will be applied to your account for up to 10 months to a maximum of \$100. The credits will start to be applied to your account as a top-up before tax on your 2nd top-up date (for Pay Before customers) or as a bill adjustment before tax on your 2nd bill (for Pay After customers). May not be combined with any other in-market offer, with some exceptions. Additional terms and conditions apply. LG V20 is a registered trademark of LG Electronics Inc. Screen image simulated. The Freedom Mobile name and logos and other words, titles, phrases, marks, logos, icons, graphics are trademarks of, or are used under license by, Freedom Mobile Inc.

INDIAN ASTROLOGER PANDIT: RAGU RAM



Expert in Patra Reading, Open Book, Palm, Reading, Horoscope Photo Reading, Face Reading, Name & Date of Birth. Pandith is Expert in Removing Black Magic, Generation Curses, Black Hearts, Voodoo, Jadoo, Butu, Witchcraft, Obeau, Evil Spirits & Bad Luck.



Are you Suffering from any of the Following Problems?

- | | | |
|------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| • Black Magic | • Business | • Drinking Problems |
| • Evil Spirits | • Work Problems | • Health Protection |
| • Bad Luck | • Financial Problems | • House Protection |
| • Reunite Lovers | • Wife & Husband Pro | • Childless Couples |
| • Stop Divorce | • Children Mistakes | • Sexual Problems |
| • Depression | • Court Cases | • Lottery |
| • Psychological | • Mortgage | • Success in Life |

CALL FOR APPOINTMENT

780-884-2098

100% GUARANTEED RESULTS

WRAP UP YOUR GIFT LIST

STORES OPEN LATE THROUGHOUT THE SEASON

— THE BEST GIFTS COME IN SMALL PACKAGES —



SHOPPERS DRUG MART® GIFT CARD
6 styles available
Reloadable between \$5 to \$300



ITUNES CARD
\$15, \$25, \$50, \$100
and \$300 Multipack



THE ULTIMATE DINING CARD
\$25, \$50, \$75, \$100 and
4 x \$15 Multipack



STARBUCKS® GIFT CARD
\$15, \$25, \$50 and
3 x \$20 Multipack

ALL SET FOR THE HOLIDAYS



OLAY REGENERIST GIFT SET
While quantities last. No rainchecks
\$39.99 VALUE OF \$69.47!



DOVE COOL MOISTURE GIFT PACK
Includes Dove Cool Moisture Body Wash,
Anti-perspirant, Shampoo and 2x113g Bar
Soap, with Bonus Dove Wash Bag
\$15.99 VALUE OF \$37.45!



AXE 3PC PHOENIX GIFT PACK
Axe Phoenix Shower Gel, 2-in-1 Shampoo
Conditioner, Body Spray. Also available
in Dark Temptation & Apollo
\$11.99 VALUE OF \$20.47!



DOVE MEN+CARE HOLIDAY GIFT PACK
Includes Body Wash, Dry Spray Antiperspirant,
Shower Tool, 2-in-1 Shampoo, 2x113g Bar.
Bonus Wash Bag.
\$19.99 VALUE OF \$42.44!



INDIA & PURRY BASKET BATH GIFT SET
Bath & Shower Gel 100mL,
Moisturizer Cream 180mL,
Soothing Body Scrub 180mL
\$15.99



ORAL-B GENIUS 8000
Electric Rechargeable Toothbrush
Powered by Braun (Black)
\$279.99



EOS™ 2016 LIMITED EDITION 3 PACK
\$12.99



AMOPÉ NAIL GIFT PACK
Amopé Nail Care Gadget, Nail Care Refills,
Nail Care Oil, Cosmetic Bag and Coupons
\$69.99 VALUE OF \$140!

Prices in effect December 22, 2016. © 2016 Starbucks Corporation. All rights reserved. ®™ Trademarks of Cara Operations Limited. TM and © 2016 Apple Inc. All rights reserved. See back of gift cards for terms and conditions. All trademarks shown are property of their respective owners and are used with their permission.

GIFTS FOR THEM. POINTS FOR YOU.
shoppersdrugmart.ca/holiday



SHOPPERS
DRUG MART



He was 'just a punk'

HALIFAX

Senior recounts brutal attack that outraged a city



Zane Woodford
Metro | Halifax

An 85-year-old woman says she was "petrified" as she was repeatedly punched in the face and dragged from her home during a brutal assault in Halifax.

Police say they were called to Jeanette MacDonald's home Tuesday night.

MacDonald said she was home alone when there was a knock at the door. She called out to ask who was there, and when there was no answer, she went to the door.

"I opened the door, and the first thing he said was, 'Give me the money.' I said, 'What the hell are you talking about, I'm not giving you no money.' And he hit me with his fist



Jeanette MacDonald was bruised after a home invasion at her basement apartment. JEFF HARPER/METRO

in my face," MacDonald said in an interview Wednesday morning.

MacDonald said the man, who she'd never seen before, told her he had a gun and

knife. She continued to refuse his demands for money, and he dragged her outside.

"He said, 'Here's one for ya,' and he let me have it right in the face again," she said.

"I said, 'What the hell are you talking about, I'm not giving you no money.'

Jeanette MacDonald

MacDonald's neighbours rushed to her side when they heard her cries for help.

"I was screaming, I couldn't stand the pain," MacDonald said.

She said the suspect ran away behind her home.

"Just a punk, that's all he was," MacDonald said.

Paramedics treated MacDonald's injuries at the scene. On Wednesday morning, she had two black eyes, a large bruise on her chest, and her hand was swollen.

"I'm not feeling too bad now, like I was at first, but I'm sore," she said.

Halifax police spokeswoman Const. Dianne Penfound said Wednesday afternoon that police had no further leads or information on the case.

Woman claims she was fired for lack of heels



Haley Ryan
Metro | Halifax

A Dartmouth single mom is questioning whether her recent firing from a popular Halifax nightclub was over high heels, but her employer says they did everything "in line with labour standards."

Ally Robinson, 25, said she's worked in the service industry for years, including at Grafton Connor Group locations like Cheers, and as a bartender at The Dome

since October. Last Friday, Robinson said a manager sent her home for not wearing high heels during her shift.

The next day, Robinson said she was dismissed by the same woman who told her she was being let go due to not wearing heels, but then added, according to Robinson, "I don't need to give you a reason at all," because the 25-year-old was still under the probation period.

"It doesn't seem fair," Robinson says.

AFGHANISTAN

First sight of kids was in hostage video

The parents of a Canadian man held in Afghanistan say a recently released video of their son and his family marks the first time they've seen their two grandchildren, who were born in captivity.

Canadian Joshua Boyle and his wife, Caitlan Coleman, were kidnapped in 2012 while travelling in northern Afghanistan.

Boyle's parents, Patrick and Linda, said they watched the video Monday, getting their first

look at their grandsons.

"It is an indescribable emotional sense one has watching a grandson making faces at the camera, while hearing our son's leg chains clanging up and down on the floor," the Boyles said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



TWITTER

UP TO \$15,000 CASH BACK FOR THE HOLIDAYS! SPECIAL RATES! DON'T PAY FOR 90 DAYS!

2008 FORD RANGER EX/CAB 2WD #08T0711 MECHANICS SPECIAL! \$8,988 OR \$59/WK	2016 KIA RIO 5 #16B0846 \$12,488 OR \$35/WK	2015 NISSAN SENTRA #15B5298 \$13,988 OR \$39/WK	2015 KIA SOUL #15B3391 \$14,988 OR \$49/WK	2011 HONDA CRV EX-L #11B0263 \$18,888 OR \$75/WK	2015 CHRYSLER 200 LIMITED #15B5531 \$18,988 OR \$53/WK
2013 SUZUKI GRAND VITARA LTD LEATHER, NAV, ROOF! #13B0729 \$18,988 OR \$69/WK	2014 CHRYSLER 300 TOURING "LEATHER" #14T7354 \$19,988 OR \$64/WK	2009 BMW X3 PREMIUM #09B4348 \$21,888 OR \$118/WK	2016 GRAND CARAVAN SE #16B7882 \$23,888 OR \$69/WK	2012 INFINITI G37X AWD #12B8467 \$24,888 OR \$86/WK	2012 RAM 1500 CREW CAB 4X4 SPORT LEATHER, NAV, ROOF! #12B7471A \$24,988 OR \$91/WK
2013 RAM 1500 CREW CAB 4X4 SXT #13B5031 \$25,888 OR \$95/WK	2013 BMW 328I XDRIVE #13B9132 \$28,888 OR \$105/WK	2014 RAM 1500 QUAD CAB 4X4 OUTDOORSMAN SUNROOF! #14T4248 \$28,888 OR \$92/WK	2014 FORD F150 CREW CAB 4X4 XLT #14B5044 \$29,888 OR \$95/WK	2013 FORD EXPLORER XLT 4X4 7 PASSENGER! #13B1782 \$29,888 OR \$109/WK	2013 VOLVO XC60 R-DESIGN #13A7690 \$31,888 OR \$110/WK
2012 AUDI Q5 PREMIUM #12B1122 \$32,888 OR \$114/WK	2016 RAM 1500 SLT CREW 4X4 #16B4300 \$34,488 OR \$97/WK	2016 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 1500 LT CREW 4X4 #16B0906 \$36,988 OR \$126/WK	2013 RAM 1500 CREW 4X4 LONGHORN #13B7959A \$36,888 OR \$128/WK	2014 RAM 1500 CREW 4X4 LARAMIE #14B9608 \$36,888 OR \$105/WK	2015 FORD F-350 CREW 4X4 DIESEL #15D2553A \$49,888 OR \$140/WK

VISIT US ONLINE 24/7 AT WWW.CWAS.CA



LOCAL 780.483.7516 • TOLL FREE 1.866.310.5751

10212-178 Street MONDAY - FRIDAY 9-9, SATURDAY 9-6, SUNDAY 11-5

VEHICLES MAY NOT BE AS ILLUSTRATED. ADVERTISED PRICES INCLUDE ALL FEES AND ARE PLUS APPLICABLE TAXES AND FINANCE CHARGES. ALL FINANCE OPTIONS ARE OAC. PMT EG. 2015 NISSAN SENTRA #15B5298 \$13,988 OR \$39/WK. BASED ON 84 MONTH TERM WITH \$0 DOWN AT 4.99% (OAC & MUST QUALIFY). TOTAL COST OF BORROWING IS \$2,752. DON'T PAY FOR 90 DAYS IS BASED ON 90 DAY PAYMENT DEFERRAL. CUSTOMER PAYS ACCRUED INTEREST WHICH IS ROLLED INTO THE BALANCE OF PAYMENTS. INTEREST CHARGES AND FEES MAY APPLY. CASH BACK IS ADDED TO FINANCE AMOUNT. CUSTOMER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR TAXES FEES AND INTEREST. SPECIAL INTEREST RATES ARE OAC.



Mexicans search for loved ones, answers after blast

SAN PABLITO

Officials say it's too early to identify cause of explosion

Relatives of workers at a fireworks market flattened by a deadly chain-reaction explosion searched hospitals for loved ones Wednesday as attention focused on apparent lax security that allowed vendors to display their dangerous wares in the passageways between stalls.

Health Secretary Cesar Gomez Monge of Mexico State, where the San Pablito Market is located, said another victim died in a hospital, raising the fatal toll to 32. About 46 people remained hospitalized, five of them in such serious condition that they were fighting for their lives, he added. Ten of the injured were minors including one girl with burns over 90 per cent of her body.

Juana Antolina Hernandez, who has run a stand for 22 years

in San Pablito next to one operated by her parents, escaped the market in a mad dash when the explosions began Tuesday afternoon. The following day she was one of the disconsolate residents waiting outside a local morgue.

"I can't find my father, and my mother is very badly burned," said Hernandez, 49. "I am waiting here for them to tell me if my father is here, but up to this point, nothing."

San Pablito was especially well stocked for the holidays and bustling with hundreds of shoppers when the blast reduced the market to a stark expanse of ash, rubble and the scorched metal, casting a pall over the Christmas season. Dramatic video of the explosion showed a towering plume of smoke that was lit up by a staccato of bangs and flashes of light, the third such incident to ravage the market on the northern outskirts of Mexico's capital since 2005.

Officials in Mexico State, which borders Mexico City, said it was too early to identify a cause of the massive series of blasts. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Officials walk through the rubble of the San Pablito fireworks market that exploded in Tultepec on the outskirts of Mexico City, Wednesday. The market was well-stocked for the holidays and bustling with hundreds of shoppers. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GLOBAL DIGEST

BERLIN

Officials had monitored truck attack suspect

German officials had deemed the Tunisian man being sought in a manhunt across Europe a threat long before a truck plowed into a Christmas market in Berlin — and even kept him under covert surveillance for six months this year before halting the operation.

Now the international manhunt for Anis Amri — considered the prime suspect in Monday's deadly rampage — is raising questions about how closely German authorities are monitoring the hundreds of known Islamic extremists in the country. The issue puts new pressure on Chancellor Angela Merkel, who is running for re-election next year. Critics are lambasting her for allowing hundreds of thousands of asylum-seekers to enter the country, allegedly without proper security checks.

TURKEY

Ambassador's killer linked to US-based cleric Gulen

Turkey's president on Wednesday implicated a U.S.-based Muslim cleric in the killing of Russia's envoy to Turkey, saying the policeman who carried out

the attack was a member of his "terror organization."

Turkey has accused Fethullah Gulen of trying to destabilize Turkey and says his movement is behind a failed military coup in July aimed at toppling the Turkish leader. Gulen has denied any involvement in the coup. The government however, has labelled the movement "the FETO terror organization" and has cracked down on Gulen's followers, arresting tens of thousands of people for their alleged link to the coup and purging more than 100,000 suspected supporters from government jobs.

TURKEY

7-year-old Aleppo tweeter safe in Turkey

A 7-year-old Syrian girl who was evacuated on Monday from eastern Aleppo and whose mother ran a Twitter account in her name met with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan in the Turkish capital, Ankara.

Bana Alabed's mother, Fatemah, began operating the account in September, tweeting on her daughter's behalf.

The account has garnered some 354,000 followers, and has included tweets to Michelle Obama and Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu, asking for help.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



In this photo taken Feb. 7, 2001, a herder walks past a pile of dead animals in the hills of Hentii province after a severe snowstorm, also known as a Dzud, in Mongolia. Another unusually harsh winter in Mongolia that's decimating livestock and sending temperatures to minus 56 degrees C may create a humanitarian crisis. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EXTREME WEATHER

Aid groups warn of crisis as Mongolia hit by harsh winter

Another unusually harsh winter in Mongolia that's decimating livestock and sending temperatures to minus 56 degrees Celsius (minus 70 Fahrenheit) may create a humanitarian crisis, with worse conditions still to come, aid groups warn.

Save the Children and the International Federation of the Red Cross said Wednesday that this winter will likely see vast swathes of the Mongolian steppe affected by the extreme weather phenomenon known in Mongolia as "dzud."

A dzud typically happens once a decade but could strike

for the second consecutive year. The dzud last year killed more than 1 million animals, afflicting the majority of Mongolians who depend on livestock for food, milk and income.

The Mongolian government said last week it met with international organizations including Save the Children, the Red Cross and the United Nations Development Program to discuss efforts to deliver heating, fuel and medical supplies amid "worsening" conditions and heavy snowfall.

Aid groups say the situation is compounded by last year's harsh winter and a deep recession amid

a market bust for Mongolia's mineral exports. The country is struggling to repay debt with its hard currency stocks while household savings have also evaporated.

Red Cross disaster program manager in Mongolia Davaajargal Batdorj said more livestock deaths are expected this year with areas of the country already buried under 1 metre of snow. The organization will begin sending cash to herder families in the far west in the coming weeks.

"It's a natural disaster on top of an economic crisis," Davaajargal said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SALE

Up to

25-50% OFF

Select styles. See in-store or online for details.

• Swimwear • Beachwear • Accessories • Women • Men • Kids • Fitness • Cup Sizes •

• Southgate Centre • West Edmonton Mall • Kingsway Garden Mall •

• Shop Online swimco.com •

swimco

Broadband is a basic service: Regulator

INTERNET ACCESS

Providers must offer unlimited options, speeds of 50 Mbps

Canada's telecom regulator has declared broadband internet access a basic service across the country, just like current land-line telephone service.

But making full access to ultra-high-speed services a reality could cost tens of billions of dollars, and the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission said Wednesday that achieving the goal will take a coordinated effort by it, businesses and governments.

The aim is to ensure service providers (ISPs) offer internet services nationwide at speeds of at least 50 megabits per second for downloading data, and 10



CRTC Chairman Jean-Pierre Blais announces the ruling on basic telecommunications service. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mbps for uploads, the CRTC said in announcing the new targets. Currently, about 82 per cent of households and businesses receive that level of service. The CRTC wants that increased to 90 per cent by 2021.

ISPs will also be required to offer unlimited data options for fixed broadband services.

As well, the most advanced mobile wireless service should be made available to all households and businesses throughout Canada, as well as along all major Canadian roads, the regulator said.

"Access to broadband internet service is vital and a basic telecommunication service all

Canadians are entitled to receive," said CRTC chairman Jean-Pierre Blais.

As part of the decision, telecom firms will have access to an escalating \$750-million industry-sponsored fund over the next five years to invest in broadband infrastructure.

The first \$100 million of that will come from a fund that currently subsidizes telephone services in isolated regions.

Advocacy group OpenMedia, regularly one of the CRTC's sharpest critics, was elated at Wednesday's declaration.

"It's a real game changer, especially for rural and underserved communities right across the country," said OpenMedia spokesman David Christopher.

Telecom giant Rogers Inc. called the CRTC plan acceptable, pointing out that it already offers services at speeds of up to 20 times faster than the new target.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

EMPLOYMENT

Face-to-face crucial for young job seekers

A new report from the federal government's expert panel on youth employment points to a need to move away from digital services for young, first-time job seekers and instead offer more person-to-person contacts and services.

In an interim report released Wednesday, the panel described how young people complete hundreds of online job applications without receiving any response from employers and that the reliance on using personal networks to find jobs is unreasonably high.

Young people with the most success at landing a job do so through the people they know and for those without such a network, the necessity to build connections can be overly intimidating, the report said.

"We are deluding ourselves if we think that by digitizing

the job application process we are making it more democratic. Network effects are as strong as ever and this hurts young people with less social capital," said panel chairwoman Vass Bednar.

The panel's interim report found young Canadians have high levels of anxiety about their future work prospects, even those with post-secondary education and previous job experience — two keys frequently cited as an avenue to a good job.

A Statistics Canada study released earlier this month showed that young people have seen their job quality decline over 40 years, even as the youth unemployment rate has remained relatively unchanged. In both 1976 and 2015 it was 2.3 times higher than the rate among those aged 25 and older.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

“We are deluding ourselves if we think digitizing the job application process makes it more democratic.”

Vass Bednar

Service Directory

To advertise call 780-702-0592

ASTROLOGY



INDIAN ASTROLOGER SPIRITUALIST HEALER AND PSYCHIC

World Famous Astrologer & Future Teller

Pandit: SHANKAR GURUJI

Most Powerful Spiritualist From India

**KNOW YOUR PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE
PALM READING, FACE READING, HOROSCOPE
PASSED FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION**

ARE YOU SUFFERING FROM ANY OF THESE ?

- | | | | |
|------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------|
| • Family | • Sickness | • Marriage | • Love |
| • Business | • Relationships | • Property | • Money |
| • Job | • Education | • Promotion | |
| • Court | • Children | • Divorce | |
| • Foreign | • Depression | • Sexual problems | |

**SPECIALIST IN BRINGING LOVED ONES BACK
100% REMOVAL OF WITCH CRAFT, BLACK MAGIC AND
EVIL THINGS PERMANENTLY. 100% RESULT GUARANTEED**

GIVE LIFE LONG PROTECTION

**780-224-3288
MILLWOODS NW, EDMONTON**



FINANCIAL

\$750 Loan and more

**No credit
check**

Open 7 days from 8 to 8 (EST)

1-855-527-4368



Call us or apply online

www.credit700.ca

CALL TODAY
to see your ad in the
Service Directory!

ASTROLOGY

ASTROLOGER & PSYCHIC READER

WORLD FAMOUS ASTROLOGER & FORTUNE TELLER

KNOW YOUR PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE

Pandith: SHIVA BABAJI
PALM READING * FACE READING * HOROSCOPE
PASSED DOWN FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION

**IF YOU HAVE ANY PROBLEM,
VISIT ME ONCE & GET IT SOLVED 100% GUARANTEED**

Love Problems, Money Problems,
Enemy Problems, Family Argument,
Childless Couples, Business Problems,
Jealousy, Property, Marriage, Sexual
Problems, House Problems, Worried
about Loved One, Husband / Wife
Matters Etc.

**PRIVATE &
CONFIDENTIAL**

**100% REMOVAL OF
BLACK MAGIC AND**

GIVE LIFE LONG PROTECTION

SPECIALIZED IN BRINGING BACK LOVED ONES

CALL NOW! Open 7 DAYS 9 AM TO 7 PM

780-906-2846

45 Street at Intersection of 121 Ave NW Edmonton

EMPLOYMENT

INFINIQUE & NATURAL BEAUTY LTD O/A INFINIQUE ORGANICS

INFINIQUE & NATURAL BEAUTY LTD O/A INFINIQUE ORGANICS
IS LOOKING FOR ESTHETICIANS
STORE AT SHERWOOD PARK MALL,
2020 SHERWOOD DR, SHERWOOD PARK, AB T8A 3H9

F/Time, Perm, Shifts, Weekends. | Salary - \$17.00 hourly
Skills requirements: good English, customer service oriented. Previous
experience is an asset, on-the-job training is provided.
Education: Some high school | Credentials: Esthetician certification is required.

Main duties: Greet customers. Give facial and other body
treatments using our products and techniques. Advise on
beauty products suited to customers' skin type. Provide
general information to customers on beauty products. Perform
cashiering duties. Provide product demonstrations.

Company's business address:
179 Callingham Pl Edmonton, AB T5T 2C6
Please apply by E-mail: infiniquegroup@gmail.com

CENNOVA URBAN SPACES INC. O/A CENNOVA HOMES

Looking for CARPENTERS

Calgary & Surrounding Area, AB.

Permanent, Full time (40 hours per week).

Wage - \$30.00 per/h

Skill requirements: Experience 3-4 years, Good English.

Education: Secondary school

Main duties: Read and interpret construction blueprints, drawings, specifications;
Measure, cut, shape, assemble, and join lumber and wood materials;
Prepare layouts, build different wood forms; Fit and install different trim items as required;
Operate and maintain measuring, hand and power tools; Follow established safety rules
and regulations; Supervise helpers and apprentices.

4908 75 Ave NW, Edmonton AB T6B 2X8 Please apply by E-mail: cenovagroup@gmail.com





CHANTAL HÉBERT ON POLITICAL NEWS' DECENTRALIZATION



The days when there was something special or newsworthy about a broadcaster serving up a prime minister to a festive nation have gone.

Once a staple of the holiday news season, the televised prime ministerial fireside chats are well on the way to joining the ghosts of Christmases past.

The CBC and Radio-Canada — among others — have opted out of the format, rightly concluding that the days when there was something special or, for that matter, newsworthy about deferentially serving up a prime minister to a festive nation had gone.

So have the days when a government leader had to rely on a handful of major networks to reach a national audience.

Interviews with the prime minister are a dime a dozen this December. On top of various year-end Parliament Hill interviews and a news conference, Trudeau has spent the past week on a year-end tour.

At the end of last week, he was in Montreal taking questions from Radio-Canada viewers. This week he spent time in Vancouver and Calgary.

There was a time when a contingent of Parliament Hill reporters would have tagged along. But trips outside the parliamentary precinct are so few now, as it is possible to catch Trudeau live in action from one's computer at no cost to media organizations.

This year marked the 150th anniversary of the Parliamentary Press Gallery. For its

Over the years, a lot of policy expertise and knowledge has been farmed out of the parliamentary press gallery.

members, it was a bittersweet occasion.

In tandem with the larger journalism universe the gallery's membership has been shrinking. That may be even

with the narrative at a distance from the capital. The members of the gallery truly were the ears and eyes of Canadians on Parliament Hill for more than a century.



These days, most of the fireworks in Canadian political news comes from reporters and commentators outside Ottawa.

THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

truer of the institution's collective influence. The challenging economics of journalism tell only part of the story.

When I came to Parliament Hill in the late '80s, Le Devoir's Montreal-based justice reporter would hop on a bus and travel to Ottawa every time the Supreme Court released a major ruling.

Collecting it in person was the only way to get the text of a decision on the day it was rendered. For that reason, larger news organizations often based their justice reporter on Parliament Hill.

With the exception of the televised House debates, pretty much anything that happened around or on the Hill was only accessible to journalists who were physically present on the premises. It was impossible to keep up

But today, the Globe and Mail's André Picard writes the most authoritative health-policy column on offer ... from Montreal.

In English as in French, the bulk of the immigration and foreign-policy commentary and analysis no longer emanates from Parliament Hill bureaus.

Every year, the budget lockup draws a gaggle of columnists and editorialists who normally toil in Montreal and Toronto. With access to federal finance documents at the tip of anyone's fingers, more fiscal policy coverage than ever is done outside the federal capital. And, of course, it is no longer necessary to have a desk a few blocks down from the Supreme Court to obtain its rulings in real time.

The much-watched At Issue

panel on CBC's The National has never had a permanent member whose exclusive workplace was Parliament Hill. (I have been splitting my time between the federal capital and Montreal for 20 years.) And yet parliamentary insiders regularly vote it as the most influential media panel.

Over the years, a lot of policy expertise and knowledge has been farmed out of the press gallery, and, with it, many of the relationships that ministers and mandarins used to nurture with those who were on the beats that pertained to their portfolios.

As a consequence but also as the result of the practice of clickbaiting, the ratio of politics reporting versus public policy coverage coming out of the parliamentary press has steadily increased. The press gallery has become more diverse but polls suggest its output has tended to become less germane to the priorities of voters.

Parliament Hill remains the only place in the country where conflicting political currents come to clash. The dynamics are a must-watch for anyone who wants to understand how complex Canada is. That is not easily done via a computer screen.

It is impossible to imagine national political coverage without a parliamentary component. But regardless of their number, the daily reporting of Parliament Hill media insiders is probably no more likely to be restored to pride of place in the national conversation than the cosy fireside chats of the not-so-distant past.

Chantal Hébert is a national affairs writer.

VICKY MOCHAMA

It's better to give than to receive, but taking has its place, too

In the lead-up to the Plunderer-Elect of the United States taking the oath of office, it's become clear that this is the Age of the Thief.

Almost every cabinet appointment seems designed to enrich either the Trumps or their billionaire friends. Trump is draining the swamp but only so he can sell the water back to the thirsty swamp dwellers in gold-embossed bottles.

The next four years will consist of so many bold acts of theft. And not just in the United States.

In Toronto, police are searching for a white male who has robbed five downtown banks in the last month. However, knowing that the public loves a criminal they can cheer for — hello, all superheroes — the police have adorably named him the "lunchtime bandit." Such creativity from a force that has only managed to come up with Black Male Known To Police for so many other suspects.

(If I'm ever arrested, please tell the police my moniker is White Woman.)

The robber is brazen but only because he knows that no one suspects clean-cut white men of crimes. He can simply slide a note to a teller saying he's armed and be out of there in minutes.

According to Staff Insp. Mike Earl, this particular perp might not be all bad. "Maybe he's never been in trouble before," he said.

"Maybe he's an educated individual who's down and out and this is his only hope to get some kind of money."

That is exactly the kind of empathy that we'll need in the coming years. No one is a criminal anymore! Donald Trump isn't a fascist and a kleptocrat. He's just "an educated individual" trying to make a living.

For that reason, Doris Payne is my Pilferer of the Year. Doris is an international jewel thief who has spent over five decades stealing expensive jewelry. And getting away with it. My girl Doris, who is 86, was arrested just last week for stealing a necklace in suburban Atlanta.

While former stockbroker and convicted fraudster Jordan Belfort got an Oscar-worthy portrayal by Leonardo DiCaprio, Doris's 50 years of high-stakes thievery has so far only generated rumours of a Halle Berry-attached biopic.

(DiCaprio himself seems to like a scammer; he also played conman-turned-FBI consultant Frank Abagnale in 2002's Catch Me If You Can.)

Doris Payne's story is like the Thomas Crowne Affair meets the Best Exotic Mari-gold Hotel, but starring a fabulous and unrepentant black woman. What does a black woman have to steal to get Viola Davis to play her?

In this season of giving, let's not forget to celebrate the takers.

metro
Your essential daily news

CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER, PRINT
Sandy MacLeod

VICE PRESIDENT & EDITOR
Cathrin Bradbury

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT,
REGIONAL SALES
Steve Shroot

MANAGING EDITOR EDMONTON
Tim Querengesser

ADVERTISER INQUIRIES
adinfoedmonton@metronews.ca
General phone 780-702-0592

FREE TO SHARE 

PHILOSOPHER CAT
by Jason Logan

INTOLERANCE
IS EVIDENCE OF
IMPOTENCE.


NELSTER CROWLEY

Philosopher cat now at
www.mymetrostore.ca

NOW OPEN. NEW LOCATION. MAYFIELD PRE-OWNED SUPERSTORE

OVER 250 CERTIFIED UNITS IN STOCK, FREE CARPROOF, HOME OF FREE LIFETIME OIL CHANGES



When you choose a
CERTIFIED USED TOYOTA
you gain access to:

- Minimum 6-months/10,000km powertrain coverage backed by Toyota
- 160 point inspection
- 24 hours a day, 365 days a year roadside assistance
- CarProof vehicle history report
- Financing direct from Toyota
- Free first oil and filter change

MAYFIELD PRE-OWNED PROMISE:

64 POINT MECHANICAL FITNESS INSPECTION • 90 DAY GUARANTEE** • FULL DISCLOSURE; YOU KNOW WHAT WE KNOW BEFORE WE TALK NUMBERS
DEDICATED PRE-OWNED FULL SERVICE FACILITY • 100'S OF COMBINED YEARS OF EXPERIENCE TREATING YOU RIGHT

**WELCOME TO THE
MAYFIELD FAMILY!**

2016 TOYOTA SIENNA LE STK164540  \$30,888	2015 TOYOTA COROLLA LE STK164470  \$15,888	2015 TOYOTA CAMRY LE STK164424  \$18,888		
2015 NISSAN ALTIMA 2.5S STK164519  \$16,888	2014 DODGE CHARGER STK164512  \$16,888	2013 JEEP COMPASS NORTH EDITION 4X4 STK164387  \$13,888	2012 CHEVROLET CRUZE LS STK164481  \$9,888	2008 FORD EDGE LIMITED 4WD STK160459B  \$11,888
2012 FORD F150 CREW 4X4 LARIAT STK1662583A  \$33,888	2014 FORD FIESTA SE HB STK164469A  \$7,888	2016 NISSAN FRONTIER CREW 4X4 SV STK164521  \$29,888	2010 MAZDA 3 GS STK164473A  \$8,888	2016 NISSAN MAXIMA SL NAV/SUNROOF/LEATHER STK164523  \$31,888
2012 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY STK1602592A  \$17,888	2012 HYUNDAI VELOSTER TECH/CUSTOM WHEELS STK164468  \$12,888	2012 BMW X1 PREMIUM STK1602219A  \$22,888	WHOLESALE FRESH TRADE INS, MECH SPECIALS FIRST COME FIRST SERVE	
2009 HONDA ACCORD COUPE EX STK164327  \$10,888	2014 HONDA CRV AWD STK1602472B  \$20,888	2015 FORD EXPLORER XLT AWD STK164318A  \$28,888	2008 DODGE 1500 M/C 4X4 SXT STK164275B  \$10,750	2009 TOYOTA COROLLA STK170362A LOW KMS  \$6,825
			2011 KIA SORENTO STK1602599B  \$7,300	2010 FORD F150 CREW 4X4 PLATINUM STK164496A  \$9,400



17456-102 Avenue

780-420-1111

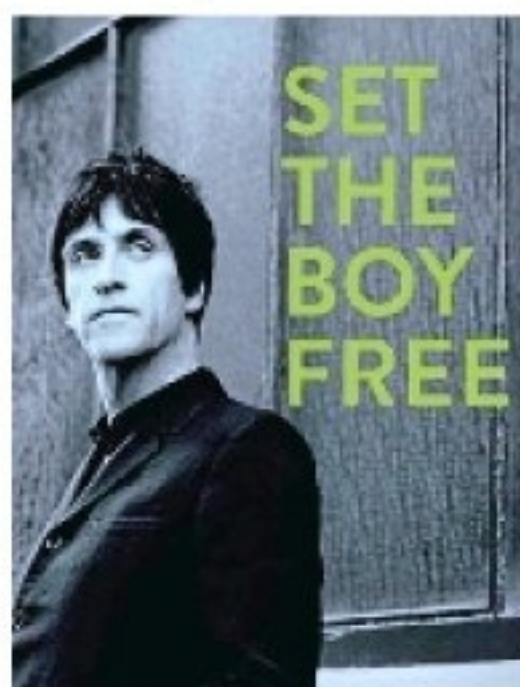
www.mayfieldtoyota.com



**90 DAY GUARANTEE DOES NOT QUALIFY ON ANY WHOLESALE UNITS SOLD. VEHICLES MAY NOT BE EXACTLY AS ILLUSTRATED. ALL UNITS PLUS GST. FREE OIL CHANGES FOR LIFE ONLY ON CERTIFIED UNITS. WHOLESALE, MECHANICAL SPECIALS DO NOT APPLY. ALL UNITS IN STOCK AT TIME OF PRINTING. SALE PRICES END 9PM TODAY.

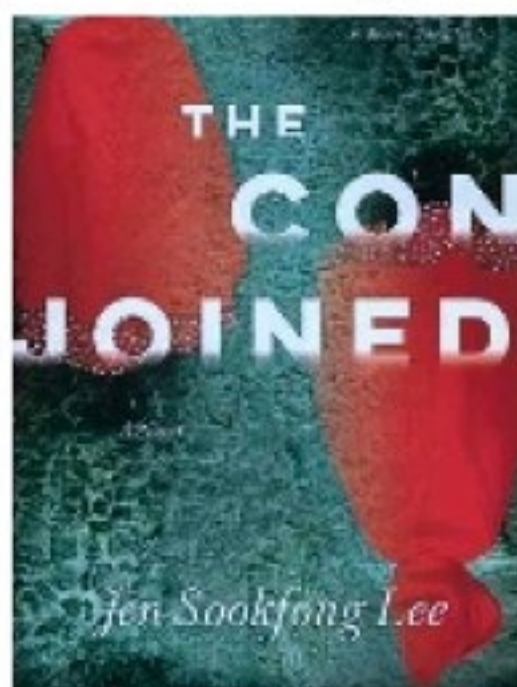
Overlooked but wonderful reads

With thousands of books published each year, narrowing down a new holiday read or gift can be daunting. There are the award winners and the bestsellers, the book club picks and the big names. But if you're looking for something a little different, here are five titles worth seeking out: **SUE CARTER/FOR METRO**



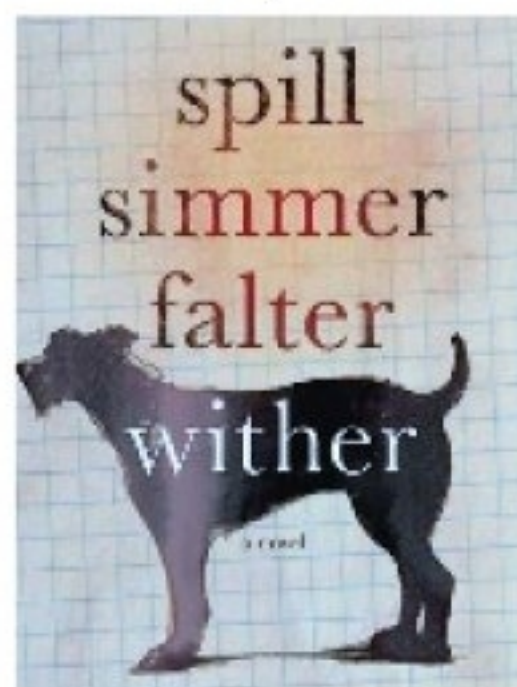
The fascinating Mr Smiths

In a year dominated by memoirs from Bruce Springsteen, Amy Schumer and Carrie Fisher, it was easy to miss Johnny Marr's **Set the Boy Free**. Marr and Morrissey, who co-formed the beloved 1980s band the Smiths, became as famous for their contentious breakup as their writing partnership. But Marr's entertaining autobiography keeps the mudslinging to a minimum, delivering a delightful history of a life dedicated to music.



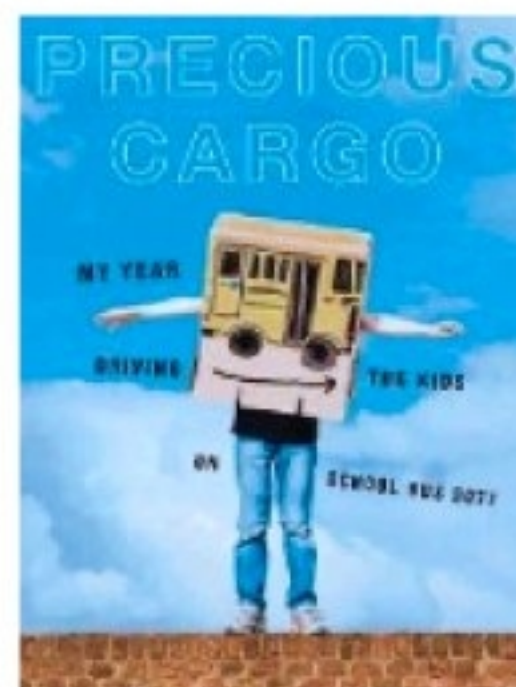
Thrill ride through Vancouver

Vancouver author Jen Sookfong Lee combines literary and crime fiction in her third novel **The Conjoined**, about a social worker who discovers the bodies of two girls — who turn out to be long-missing troubled foster children — in her recently deceased mother's freezers. Lee draws from Vancouver's social history, pop culture and an exploration of family dynamics for a woman-focused, refreshing take on the traditional thriller.



Man and dog in dark times

Before it was published in Canada this year, Irish writer Sara Baume received a long list of accolades in the U.K. for her debut novel **Spill Simmer Falter Wither**, set in a small village inspired by her own home. Baume breathes new life into an old trope about a man and his dog, with beautiful, lyrical language and a startling, dark conclusion. This is one of the most quietly devastating books of the year.



A funny, charming bus journey

Craig Davidson has earned a tough-guy reputation, both for his hard-hitting books (and the film adaptation of *Rust and Bone*) and his horror-writing pseudonym Nick Cutter. In his charming memoir **Precious Cargo: My Year of Driving the Kids on School Bus 3077**, the Calgary author recalls a tough period when he took a job driving a bus for special-needs students, proving that he is also sensitive and empathetic, with a sharp sense of humour.



Single women on a mission

Journalist Cheryl Lu-Lien Tan's first novel, **Sarong Party Girls**, explores the lives of Jazzy and her friends, all twenty-something Singapore women on a mission to snag rich *ang moh* (Western expat) husbands and to give birth to "Chanel babies." Told in 'Singlish' — a hybrid patois of Singaporean English — Tan, who did plenty of research to capture the scene, exposes a sordid but fascinating world of nightclubs and lounges ruled by racism and misogyny.

DOWNLOAD METRO'S NEW APP NOW

OFFLINE READING



•LOCAL NEWS • VIEWS
•LIFE • SPORTS
>>>

Give the gift of delicious coffee

Treat them to Headline Coffee, the subscription service that delivers a new, Fairtrade certified coffee each month.

Order by December 22 for early January delivery

headlinecoffee.ca

MAKE SURE IT'S FAIRTRADE

INTERNATIONAL ASTROLOGER & PSYCHIC

Pandit: SEETHARAM
An Extraordinary Pandit at your Service, Specialist in Getting Rid Of BLACK MAGIC Permanently

BEST SOLUTIONS FOR YOUR BEST FUTURE

• Love Husband-Wife	• Job	• Enemy
• Relationship	• Money	• Depression Promotion
• Marriage	• Health	• Business
• Court	• Jealousy	• Sexual
• Teenage issues	• Lucky Number	• Personal Matters

MEET ME ONCE SEE THE CHANGES

Master Removes BLACK MAGIC Jadoo, Voodoo Tons Obeya Witchcraft & Gives 100% Lifelong Protection
I CAN HANDLE ANY KIND OF PROBLEMS

780-908-7176

100% PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

LAKWOOD ROAD NORTH
MILLWOODS ROAD
OPEN 7 DAYS • 9 AM TO 9 PM

Bringing back an old-school Legend

INTERVIEW

Singer's role in La La Land sees him return to musical past

When he was a kid, multiple Grammy winner John Legend was in high school musicals, including *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* and *Fiddler on the Roof*. So perhaps it was in the cards for him to take on two roles in *La La Land*, a movie being credited with re-energizing the classic genre.

Written and directed by Damien Chazelle, *La La Land* opens on Christmas Day.

Legend is both an executive producer on the film and acts and sings onscreen as hit-seeking bandleader Keith. To prepare for the part, Legend worked with an acting coach and learned to play guitar. He also wrote the song he performs with co-star Ryan Gosling, *Start a Fire*.

Legend's Keith is a longtime friend of jazz musician Sebastian (Gosling), who seems far away from his dream of opening his own club. Keith's band is enjoying success with a far more commercial sound than the purity that Sebastian champions. When Keith offers him a job, it comes at a cost to Sebastian's relationship with struggling actress Mia (Emma Stone) and his vow to stay loyal to his music.

A co-writer on *Glory*, a Best Original Song Oscar winner from the film *Selma*, Legend sat down during the Toronto International Film Festival for a Canadian exclusive interview to talk about his work in *La La Land*.

What job came first: the executive producer or the acting?

It was all kind of bundled together in the same conversation. They wanted me to write a song for (*La La Land*) and possibly perform in it as an actor ... and come on as an executive producer to help with the music. But (Chazelle) held out the possibility that he might want me to play Keith and I looked at the role and said, 'Yeah, I could do this.' I understand Keith as a character, and it's something I think I (could) do. Damien took a leap of faith because he had never seen me act before. He had to just speculate that I might be good at it and I think he's OK with his decision now.

We don't know much about the friendship between Sebastian and Keith. Did you work out a backstory?

We talked about that with Damien and basically the idea was that these

You feel their story, you understand what it's like to have a dream and to want to pursue that.

John Legend

guys probably went to music school together and they both kind of have the same foundation as talented musicians who come up through the jazz school of thought, but one of them decides to cleave through that tradition more and the other one decides to kind of push himself beyond the boundaries of what traditional jazz would allow. Damien didn't want one to be perceived as inherently better than the other, but just different choices. This has been seen in films before, this idea of selling your soul for rock'n'roll. Right. And so (Chazelle) wanted that tension, but he also didn't want



John Legend with Emma Stone and Ryan Gosling in *La La Land*. DALE ROBINETTE/ENTERTAINMENT ONE

Keith to be a crappy musician that everyone thought, 'Well, that's terrible.' He wanted it to be a viable option; this is good in its own way. It's different from what Gosling's character's trying to do, but it's still a viable option.

Why do you want to be involved with movies?

I've always loved history and ... a lot of the films that we get involved with and the television shows we get involved with are kind of historically based. And I think film has a power to connect in a really powerful way and a beautiful way, and I love the interaction of film and music, and most

of it in things I work on have that interaction where we write songs for it. For instance, *Underground*, a television show that we produced (for WGN America), we were very involved in the music, so I feel like it's an extension of my music career and my career as a storyteller and as an artist.

Are movie musicals an old-fashioned concept?

Great stories never go out of style. Great characters never go out of style. Great filmmaking never goes out of style. And I think the power of this film is that you feel a real human connection to Sebastian and Mia, you feel their story, you understand what it's like to have a dream and

to want to pursue that. It's really great writing and great dancing, great performances. What's not to like? Even if this genre is supposedly on life support, I think Damien certainly provided enough jolt to it and reinvigorated it for 2016.

How does Ryan Gosling hold up as a musician?

Oh, he's so good! He really worked on being a great pianist for this and I was so impressed. And they (Stone and Gosling) sound great together, their singing and their dancing is just magical. It kind of took me by surprise to see how beautifully they were dancing together.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



Bring Home Canadian Cheese[®] this holiday season.

Visit your specialty cheese section to discover flavours for any occasion.

Dairy Farmers
of Canada

all you need is
cheese



Lena Dunham said she would never intentionally 'trivialize the challenges of terminating a pregnancy.' THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Dunham apologizes over 'joke'

ENTERTAINMENT

On her podcast star said she wished she had an abortion

Lena Dunham has apologized for saying she wished she had an abortion. Dunham made the comment on last week's episode of her *Women of the Hour* podcast, while talking about a self-realization.

She said that, even though she speaks against stigmatizing abortion, she found herself saying adamantly that she had never had one when she was asked to be part of a project involving women discussing their abortions.

In reference to this contradiction, she said: "Now, I can

say that I still haven't had an abortion, but I wish I had."

The comment drew criticism online.

On Tuesday, the *Girls* star apologized on Instagram for what she called "a distasteful joke."

She said she "would never, ever intentionally trivialize the emotional and physical challenges of terminating a pregnancy."

"My only goal is to increase awareness and decrease stigma," Dunham added. "I take reproductive choice in America more seriously than I take literally anything else, and therefore own full responsibility for any words I speak that don't convey this truth clearly."

"My life is and always will be devoted to reproductive justice and freedom."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CELEBS ON INSTAGRAM

SVU crew's reunion

Former *Law & Order: Special Victims Unit* co-stars Mariska Hargitay and Christopher Meloni are celebrating the season with a holiday selfie.

Meloni posted a picture of himself with his arm around Hargitay on his Instagram on Tuesday, along

with the caption, "Friends at Xmas." Meloni and Hargitay starred in *SVU* for 12 seasons before Meloni left in a contract dispute.

They have reunited on several occasions since, including at a 2013 event for Hargitay's Joyful Heart Foundation charity.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



INSTAGRAM

JOHANNA SCHNELLER WHAT I'M WATCHING

Real-life Jeopardy more than a game

THE SHOW: Jeopardy, December 20, 2016

THE MOMENT: The sixth win

You could feel North America holding its breath. Cindy Stowell, who died from colon cancer on December 5th, was still alive on Jeopardy, after winning five games in a row. (She taped her games in August. The producers and host Alex Trebek knew of her condition; her opponents didn't.)

But here in the sixth game, things are looking dire for the tiny, soft-spoken science content developer with the chic pixie haircut. She enters the final jeopardy round well behind opponent Julia Kite. The question is insanely specific: "If this U.S. state was a coun-



The late Cindy Stowell and Alex Trebek. CONTRIBUTED

try, it would have been in the top 10 in gold medals with 14 — 9 of them by one man and one woman."

Cindy unveils her answer: Maryland. Correct (Michael Phelps is a Marylander). She unveils her wager: \$10,201.00. That puts her one dollar ahead

of Julia.

Julia unveils her answer: Ohio. America whoops.

You don't really think of Jeopardy as a marketing mastermind, but they are handling this expertly. They kept Cindy's illness quiet for her first few games. As she

approached win number five, a story appeared in The New York Times, and went viral.

Now, at the end of this divisive year, Americans of all stripes are gathering before their TVs as if they're hearths, at that time of evening when the holiday lights begin to twinkle, to root together for someone because she's tough and humble and intelligent.

Cindy's six-day total is \$103,803, which she's donating to cancer research. Expect high ratings for tonight's show. Somewhere, Charles Dickens is smiling.

Johanna Schneller is a media connoisseur who zeroes in on pop-culture moments. She appears Monday through Thursday.

#YEG NEWS

The Kit Compact—Canada's fave beauty and fashion brand—brings you Edmonton's best holiday style

FASHION INSIDER

Edmonton's It designer, Malorie Urbanovitch, shares the deets of her cozy-chic Fall 2016 collection

What inspired this collection? "I always try to evoke a sense of nostalgia, and for fall, I referenced the 1980s. There is also a Western influence that feels both masculine and feminine. I wanted to juxtapose a sense of functionality with an air of feminine frivolity."

What are the standout pieces? "The forest green leather jacket is one of my favourites: The deep green colour feels neutral, so it can easily become a piece you wear every day, and the leather is super luxurious. There's also a velvet ruffled gown that is very glamorous, and the fabric moves and catches the light in the most surreal way. Last but not least, there's a cream oversized, hand-knit alpaca turtleneck that I'm going to be living in this winter."

How would you describe your own approach to holiday dressing? "Super cozy, very après-ski. And I love wearing red during the holidays."

Do you have any tips for putting together a winter look that feels fresh?

"I think being comfortable is chic—I always want to wear cashmere sweaters and jeans. And beautiful outerwear can make everything more dramatic."

What is the top item on your personal wish list? "Did I mention that I love cashmere? So...cashmere."

—Rida Talpur



PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY OF MALORIE URBANOVITCH.

MUST-VISIT: REC ROOM

If you were debating what to do this holiday season, just head to the mega-entertainment complex Rec Room (1725 99th St. N.W.). Start your night with a few rounds of bowling and Ping-Pong before testing your skills at the live-band karaoke. After you've worked up an appetite, grab a table at the upscale restaurant Three10 (home to Canada's largest grill) to feast on steak frites and mac and cheese or head to the casual Shed restaurant for a nightcap of poutine and a maple fig donut. —RT



PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY OF THE REC ROOM.

CONNECT WITH US Get the latest style news delivered to your inbox. Visit thekit.ca/sign-up

FROM THE EDITORS OF THE KIT
compact

f thekitca
@thekitca
@thekit



MEET THE CONDO

Live along Sturgeon River Valley



OAKMONT TOWNHOMES

CONTRIBUTED

Project overview

Oakmont in St. Albert is a family-oriented and beautiful community, offering scenic views of the meandering Sturgeon River. Oakmont Townhomes hope to capitalize on these assets with contemporary and affordable units suitable for a wide-range of buyers, from singles or families to downsizers.

Housing amenities

Oakmont Townhomes feature single attached garages, double driveways, balconies and large windows. Heritage models feature open, contemporary floor plans with modern finishing packages and oversized baseboards and casings. There's island kitchens, spacious living and dining rooms and fenced yards.

Location and transit

Oakmont is located along the Sturgeon River Valley, near the Sturgeon Valley Golf Course and surrounded by parks and all levels of schooling. Nearby Bellerose Drive leads to the St. Albert Centre Transit Station with regular links to Edmonton's downtown and post-secondary sites. Nearby St. Albert Trail links commuters to downtown.

In the neighbourhood

Within moments, Oakmont Townhomes residents can be at St. Albert Trail, which offers shopping, dining and services. The Sturgeon Hospital is nearby, as is St. Albert Centre, parks and the Red Willow Trail System, offering paths for jogging, cycling or walking. Servus Place has indoor fitness, a pool and skating rinks for year-round recreation. LUCY HAINES/FOR METRO

+ NEED TO KNOW

What: Oakmont Townhomes
Builder/developer: Slokker West
Location: Oakmont in St. Albert
Building: 103 townhomes
Pricing: From the \$280s, Heritage model from \$300s
Sizes: From 1,094 sq. ft
Model: Three models with varying floor plans of two-

and three-bedroom townhomes
Status: Now under construction, completion set for 2018
Occupancy: Building No. 15 now set for possession
Sales Centre: Set to open March 2017 at 600 Bellerose Dr.
Phone: 780-887-0043
Website: visitoakmont.com

SRI DURGA MATA ASTROLOGER & PSYCHIC



Pandit: RADHA KRISHNA JI

Expert in Palm Reading, Face Reading, Patra Reading & Photo Reading

Master Brings Back Loved Ones

An Expert Pandit Tells Past, Present & Future Solves problems like Love, Money, Job, Sickness, Court,

Business, Marriage, Enemy, Black Magic Etc

IF YOU HAVE PROBLEMS, I HAVE 100% GUARANTEED SOLUTIONS

780-863-0265 53 Street Mill Woods
Edmonton T6L 3K3



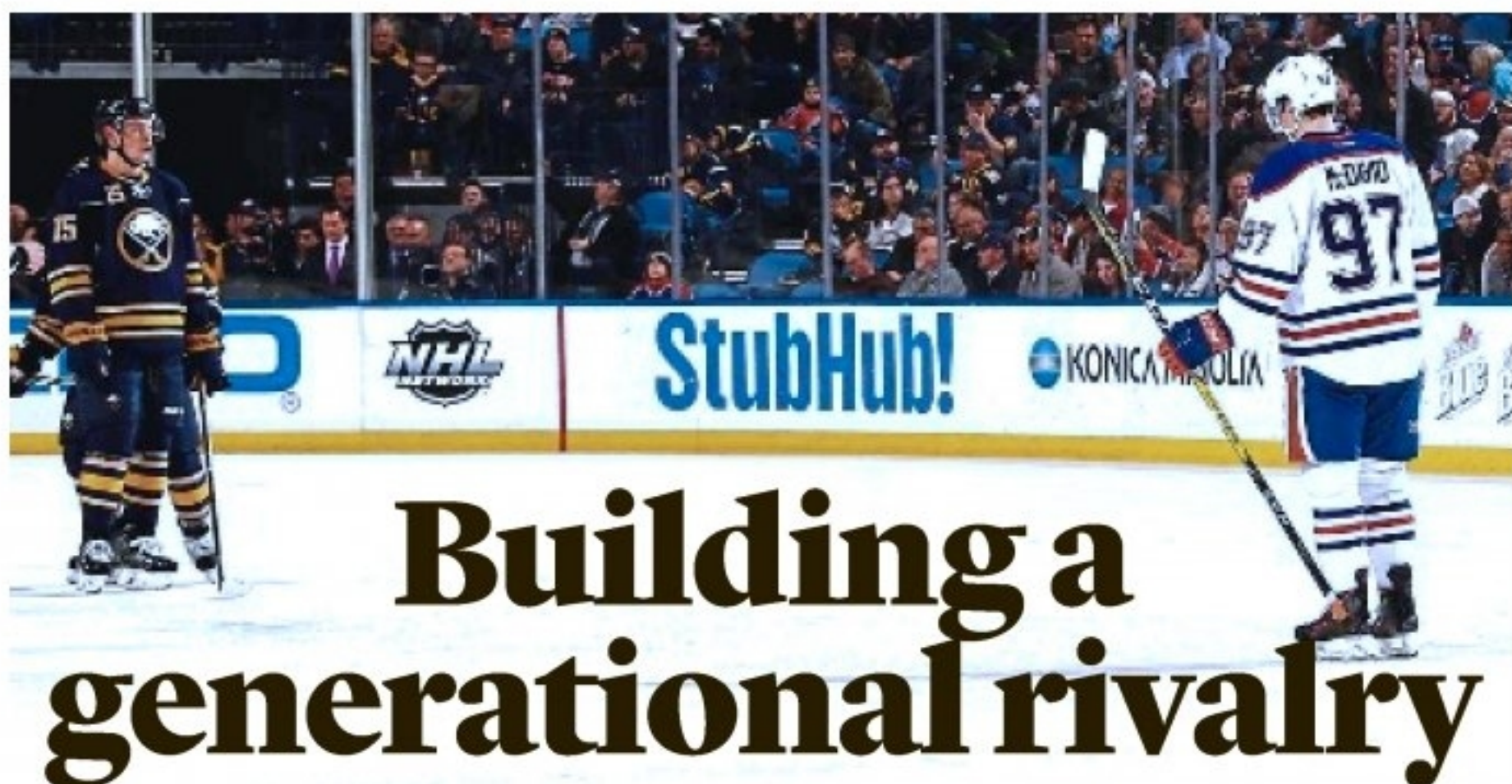
DOWNLOAD METRO'S NEW APP NOW

•LOCAL NEWS • VIEWS •LIFE • SPORTS

>>>

OFFLINE
READING

A new NBA labour deal was reportedly on the verge of being finalized after owners voted Wednesday to approve a proposed seven-year CBA



Building a generational rivalry

Jack Eichel, left, and Connor McDavid JEN FULLER/GETTY IMAGES

NHL

McDavid leads the way in next marquee matchup

No matter where the Edmonton Oilers travel, captain Connor McDavid is confronted by the same questions and comparisons to the opposing team's star.

In Buffalo, it's Jack Eichel, who was selected second in the 2015 draft behind McDavid. In Toronto, it's Auston Matthews, the No. 1 pick last June.

In Pittsburgh, it's Sidney Crosby, the obvious measuring stick for the NHL's entire "Next Generation" crop of youngsters.

Intriguing as the discussions are, McDavid would prefer not to be involved.

"I think it can be a bit of a sideshow sometimes," the NHL's points leader said during a recent stop in Buffalo, where his budding rivalry with Eichel was broached. "It seems like there's a new guy everywhere we go."

The same applies to Oilers coach Todd McLellan, who enjoyed a firsthand glimpse of the league's top young stars while coaching the 23-and-under Team North America at the World Cup of Hockey in September.

"You'd like to capture that and reproduce it during the winter, but that's really, really hard to do with 82 games and 30 teams," McLellan said. "But for us, I get asked those questions night after night after night."

McLellan would rather place the focus on his entire squad and not just McDavid, who at 19 has enough weight on his shoulders.

"Ryan Nugent-Hopkins is a former first overall pick, Leon Draisaitl: these players have to not take a backseat," McLellan said. "They have to step up and lead as well. And Connor can't do it by himself every night."

Team versus individual aside, the comparisons won't stop any time soon. And in years to come, the buzz will increase particularly once the torch of the NHL's marquee matchup, which used to be Wayne Gretzky versus Mario Lemieux, is passed on from Crosby versus Alex Ovechkin. NBC broadcaster Pierre

McGuire is intrigued by the many possibilities, all of which involve McDavid, whom he already regards as the league's second-best player behind Crosby.

Aside from Eichel and Matthews, McGuire points to the Winnipeg Jets' young tandem of Mark Scheifele and Patrik Laine as natural rivals to McDavid. Unlike Toronto and Buffalo, who play in the Eastern Conference and meet Edmonton just twice a season, the Jets play in the West.

The prospect of seeing the Canadian-born McDavid facing off against the U.S.-born Eichel led McGuire to lobby the NHL to continue playing on the international stage.

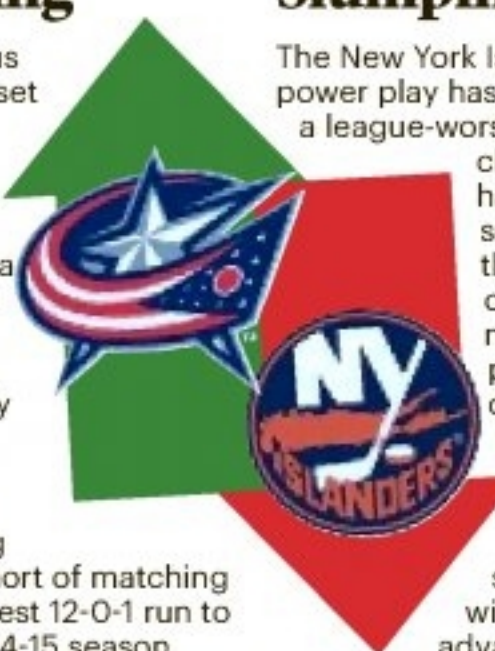
"That's why we have to go to the Olympics, for this to flesh out," he said. "That's what creates a lot of these gigantic rivalries." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

2006

The last time the Oilers qualified for the playoffs.

Streaking

The Columbus Blue Jackets set a franchise record by winning their 10th straight with a 3-2 shootout victory over the Kings on Tuesday. They also have points in 12 consecutive games, going 11-0-1, one short of matching a franchise-best 12-0-1 run to close the 2014-15 season.



Slumping

The New York Islanders power play has converted a league-worst 12 of 88 chances and has yet to score more than twice in one game. It's not as if the power play is contributing to wins. The Isles are 4-4-4 when scoring with the main advantage.



Sidney Crosby GETTY IMAGES

League leaders

22

Goals: Sidney Crosby, PIT

Points: Connor McDavid, EDM, 40

Game-winning goals: Artem Anisimov, CHI, and Jeff Carter, LA, 6

Ice time per game: Dustin Byfuglien, WIN, 27:36

Wins: Sergei Bobrovsky, CBJ, 19.

NHL

Second most points is 'like No. 1' to Jagr

Jaromir Jagr knows No. 2 is as high as he'll go on the NHL career scoring list.

In his mind, that's a record in itself.

Jagr's next point will be the 1,888th of his career and give him outright possession of second place on the all-time NHL points list, breaking a tie with Mark Messier. Only Wayne Gretzky's total of 2,857 is better than that, and

Jagr — the 44-year-old Florida Panthers forward who has said he can see himself playing until he's 50 — knows the top spot is

going to stay far from his reach.

"For me, it's like No. 1," Jagr said recently when asked what passing Messier would mean. "I don't really count Wayne Gretzky."

He was from another planet. I don't think he was from this planet. Whatever he did, it's unbreakable."

Jagr caught Messier on Tuesday with a three-assist effort in Florida's shootout win over Buffalo. His next chance

for the tiebreaker is Thursday, when the Panthers play host to the Boston Bruins.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

I just enjoy every moment I get a chance to play in this league and try to do everything I can to stay in this league.

Jaromir Jagr

MLB

Slugger taken aback by Jays' quick trigger

Edwin Encarnacion might have been signed to a new contract with the Blue Jays by now, had it not been for a compressed signing period that gave the popular slugger no time to consider his market, his agent says.

Paul Kinzer, who is representing Encarnacion in what is now a sluggish free agent market for power hitters, said Encarnacion was taken by surprise when Toronto signed Kendrys Morales "two days" after they offered him a reported four-year, \$80-million deal.

"They told us they'd be



Edwin Encarnacion GETTY IMAGES

signing other players, that wasn't a surprise to us," Kinzer told the Jeff Blair Show on Sportsnet radio Wednesday morning.

"But signing someone (Morales) two days later, that was a surprise."

Encarnacion remains unsigned, though Kinzer said his client has at least six offers to consider. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

IN BRIEF

Canada juniors checkmate Czechs in exhibition play

Anthony Cirelli struck twice and Tyson Jost added a goal and an assist Wednesday night as Canada defeated the Czech Republic 5-0 in world junior championship pre-tournament play in Ottawa.

Dylan Strome and Julien Gauthier also found the back of the net for Canada, which outshot the Czechs 36-20. Connor Ingram stopped all 20 shots he faced for the shutout. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canadian ski cross racers win silver, bronze medals

Germany's Heidi Zacher won gold Wednesday at the ski cross World Cup while Canadians Marielle Thompson and Georgia Simmerling joined her on the podium in Innichen, Italy.

Simmerling, from West Vancouver, B.C., had the lead for most of the big final before slipping to third. Thompson, from Whistler, B.C., took the silver to retain her lead in the season standings. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Big Finn making waves in Arizona

NCAA BASKETBALL

Seven-footer Markkanen a tough mark with Wildcats

Arizona's Lauri Markkanen has a decidedly Nordic demeanour: Serious, straightforward, understated.

The seven-foot Finnish forward has much more flash on a basketball floor, flying for dunks, dropping three-pointers, slipping bounce passes to teammates.

"It's almost like he has the game of a six-foot-seven forward, he just happens to be seven-foot," Arizona coach Sean Miller said.

He also happens to be one of the NCAA's best freshmen.

Blessed with deep shooting range and an ability to put the ball on the floor, Markkanen plays more like a shooting guard or small forward.

Play him too tight on the perimeter and he has the skill to get

to the rim or pull up for a jumper. Play off and Markkanen will drain three-pointers all night.

His unique combination of skill and size make him a difficult match-up for anybody.

"If he's hitting the outside shot like that, there's not much you can do," Texas Southern coach Mike Davis said after Markkanen hit five threes and scored 19 points in Arizona's 85-63 home victory on Nov. 30.

Markkanen comes by his do-it-all-abilities through family.

His father Pekka

played a season

at Kansas, profes-

sionally in Europe

and on the Finnish

national team,

as did Lauri's

mother, Riikka.

One of Lauri's

brothers, Eero,

is a pro soccer

player and the

other, Miikka,

played basketball



CHRIS CODUTO/
GETTY IMAGES

16.1

Markkanen leads Arizona with 16.1 points and 7.3 rebounds per game while shooting 48 per cent from the floor and 43 per cent from three-point range.

until retiring due to injuries.

"I just got better because of that," Lauri

said of growing up

among athletes. "I

just wanted to beat

them so bad, I just

kept working on my

game."

Markkanen has

helped carry the Wildcats

(11-2), teaming with Serbian

big man Dusan Ristic on the

inside.

"We're asking him

to do everything and

he just got here," Mil-

ler said.

So far, he's handling it

all. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



NBA KYRIE HELPS CAVS SWEEP BUCKS IN CLEVELAND

Kyrie Irving had 31 points and a career-high 13 assists and LeBron James scored 29 as the Cavaliers won Wednesday in their second game in two nights over the Milwaukee Bucks, 113-102 despite being without two starters. The NBA champs were without Kevin Love, who didn't dress due to a bruised left knee, and J.R. Smith, who sat out after breaking his right thumb on Tuesday at Milwaukee. DAVID LIAM KYLE/NBAE VIA GETTY IMAGES

BUNDESLIGA

Bayern reclaim top spot in Germany

Bayern Munich eased to a comfortable 3-0 victory over Leipzig in their top-of-the-table clash to claim the Bundesliga's unofficial title of 'autumn champion' before the winter break.

"We wanted to send a signal," Bayern captain Philipp Lahm said.

The two sides had been level going into their 16th-round showdown, with Leipzig, boasting the league's best away record, quietly confident of causing another upset to round off a remarkable first half-season of top-flight football.

Only founded in 2009, Leipzig was promoted as second-division runner-up last season but surprised many by making the best-ever start for a new team in the Bundesliga.



Robert
Lewandowski
GETTY IMAGES

But the visitors were already two goals down when their hopes were virtually extinguished with Emil Forsberg's sending off for a dangerous lunge in the 30th minute.

Thiago Alcantara opened the scoring inside 20 minutes, when he arrived at the right time to convert from close range with his thigh after Robert Lewandowski's initial effort hit the right post.

Xabi Alonso added to Bayern's lead in the 25th minute and Robert Lewandowski finished the scoring on the stroke of halftime from the penalty spot.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Duke deliver knockout blow to Elon in second half

Luke Kennard scored 21 points while Duke star Grayson Allen received a technical foul for his third tripping incident in a year during the fifth-ranked Blue Devils' 72-61 victory over Elon on Wednesday night.

Duke (12-1) trailed 35-34 at halftime before rallying for its 10th straight win in its final game before starting Atlantic Coast Conference play. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Thunder ride Westbrook's 42 to win over Pelicans

Russell Westbrook had 42 points and 10 rebounds, and the Oklahoma City Thunder beat the New Orleans Pelicans 121-110 on Wednesday night.

Alex Abrines scored nine of his 18 points during a pivotal 11-0 run early in the fourth quarter. The surge gave the Thunder a 100-87 lead with 9:18 left and New Orleans never got within eight points after that.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rodgers full participant at Packers practice

Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers was listed as a full practice participant for the first time since being slowed by the first of two leg injuries.

Green Bay began on-field work Wednesday in preparation for their game Saturday against the Minnesota Vikings.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Eliminian to remain a Lion

Veteran linebacker Solomon Eliminian agreed Wednesday to a contract extension that will keep him with the B.C. Lions through the 2018 season.

Eliminian was scheduled to become a free agent in February but said he wanted to stay in Vancouver.

"This is where I want to finish my career," he said. "I've got great teammates, a great coaching staff that believes in you so for me this is the ideal situation."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

OBITUARIES

Direct Cremation
\$980 + GST*

Traditional Burial
\$2995 + GST*
+Casket*

FUNERAL DIRECTOR ON CALL 24 HOURS

*Of Average Size *Prices subject to change

780-457-6600 | 10969 101 ST NW, EDMONTON, T5H 2S9 | FGMEMORIAL.CA

SHOP YOUR TEAM!

mymetrostore.ca

metro OBITUARIES

Metro is now publishing Obituary notices

To place a notice, go to obits.metronews.ca

YESTERDAY'S ANSWERS

Your daily crossword and Sudoku answers from the play page.

for more fun and games go to metronews.ca/games



5	9	4	3	8	1	2	7	6
1	6	3	7	2	5	9	4	8
7	2	8	6	9	4	3	1	5
2	8	1	9	7	3	5	6	4
4	7	5	2	1	6	8	9	3
9	3	6	5	4	8	7	2	1
6	5	2	1	3	9	4	8	7
3	4	7	8	6	2	1	5	9
8	1	9	4	5	7	6	3	2

MAKE IT TONIGHT

Comforting Slow Cooker Chicken Stew



PHOTO: MAYA VISNVEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

Just a bit of prep in the morning and you'll come home to a satisfying dinner.

Ready in 6 hours 10 minutes

Prep time: 10 minutes
Serves 4

Ingredients

- 6 chicken thighs
- 1 potato, peeled and cubed
- 1 Tbsp vegetable oil
- 2 onions, chopped
- 4 stalks celery, chopped
- 2 carrots, peeled and chopped
- 1 Tbsp fresh thyme (1 tsp dried)
- 1 or 2 bay leaves
- 1/4 cup flour
- 2 cups low-sodium chicken stock
- 1 cup fresh or frozen peas
- 1/2 cup light cream

Directions

1. In a Dutch oven or high-sided skillet, sauté onions, celery and carrots in splash of vegetable oil for about five minutes.
2. Add flour, thyme and bay leaves and stir for a minute. Add stock and stir until smooth. Simmer for 3 or 4 minutes until sauce thickens.
3. Add the potatoes and good pinch of salt and pepper.
4. Place chicken thighs in the bottom of slow cooker and spoon the vegetable mixture over. Seal and set for 6 hours.
5. Add peas and cream and cook for 10 more minutes. Serve plain or over mashed potatoes.

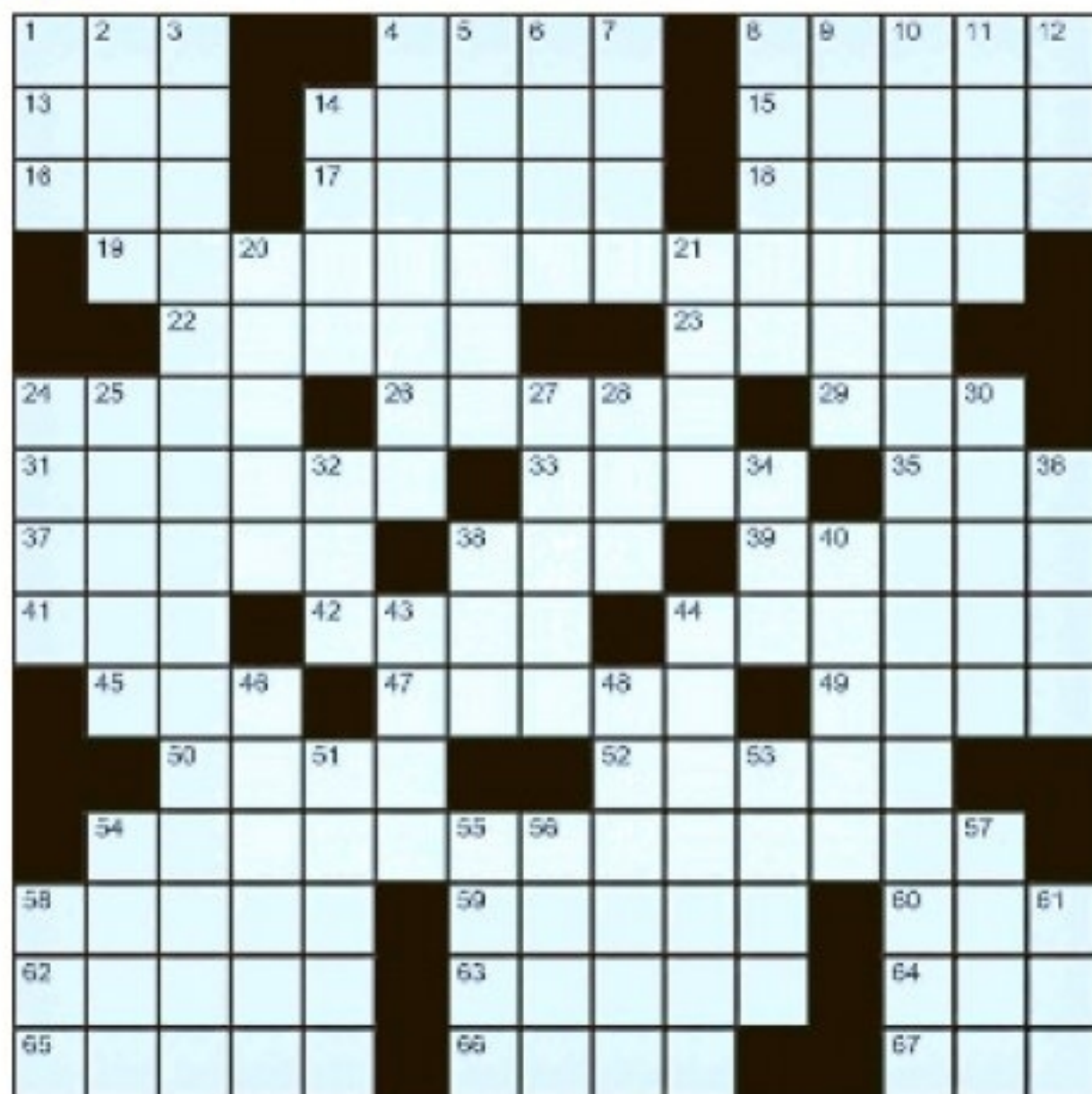
FOR MORE MEAL IDEAS, VISIT
SWEETPOTATOCHRONICLES.COM

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ACROSS

1. Australian boot maker
4. Snowplow's creation
8. Cosmetics brand
13. For
14. Angels and Earthly Creatures writer, Elinor
15. Jeweller's eye piece
16. Lawn roll
17. Chicago's airport
18. The (Poem by British poet William Blake)
19. Signs indicating that Santa and his delivery crew have just landed: 3 wds.
22. havoc
23. Nobel Peace Prize city
24. Money Object link: 2 wds.
26. French painter Mr. Dufy
29. Sotheby's fare
31. Liveliness
33. Mr. Kilmer's
35. Drummer Mr. Cool
37. Until this moment: 2 wds.
38. Tommy Jones connector
39. Laughs
41. Note before Lah
42. Air freshener target, variantly
44. Toronto college; or, Roman statesman
45. Never: German
47. On a ship, sea
49. Nero's 602
50. Coin insertion place



52. Canadian sweets shop, Secord
54. Bit of "We Three Kings of Orient Are": "Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying / Sealed in the"
58. Unflappable
59. Take apart shoelaces

60. Antiquity
62. oeuvre (Appetizer)
63. Self-righteous
64. Mr. Orbison
65. Showbiz performer Martha's
66. Canadian director Mr. Egoyan
67. inspiring

DOWN

1. Sit (Exercises)
2. David of "Rhoda"
3. What it's predicted Rudolph will do at the end of his Christmas tune: 4 wds.
4. How to completely memorize something: 2 wds.

5. Sarah Palin's state
6. De Robert
7. Ardent
8. Some choral voices
9. One of Montreal's Concordia University campuses
10. Have fun with photos pos-

- ing: 4 wds.
11. Imitates
12. "darn tootin'!"
14. Created tap-estries
20. Storm aka Munroe, Halle Berry's character in "X-Men: Days of Future Past" (2014)
21. Bun
24. 'Violin' suffixes
25. Serving (Dinner-time utensil)
27. Obvious
28. Dubai's locale, commonly
30. Ms. Bingham of "Baywatch"
32. "Letters from Jima" (2006)
34. Particular pronoun
36. Mr. Morales
38. Mr. Ferrigno
40. Prefix meaning 'Male'
43. Fawn
44. The Olympic in Montreal
46. Author S.E. Hinton = Susan Hinton
48. The Beatles' "Yellow Submarine" album tune: "It's Much"
51. Where musicians store their songs: 2 wds.
53. Driving 4x4s, commonly
54. Ancient colonnade
55. Lipton soup
56. Kool & The Gang's "Get Down"
57. Gust
58. Stock unit [abbr.]
61. Hair tinter

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
This is a wonderful day to enjoy the company of others, especially partners and close friends. You also will enjoy dealing with members of the general public.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Work-related travel is likely today. Fortunately, you feel upbeat and happy, especially relating to co-workers and customers. People will be honest and candid with you today.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
This is a fun-loving day! You will enjoy social outings, sports events and playful activities with children. Seek out opportunities to express your creative talents.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Family conversations will go well today, especially with female relatives, moms and aunts. Explore real-estate opportunities; however, wait until tomorrow to act with purpose.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Today you feel quite content with your world. This is why you will enjoy chatting with siblings, neighbors and relatives. It feels good to be upbeat and optimistic.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
This is an excellent day for business and commerce. Travelling for work is very likely. Nevertheless, postpone important financial decisions until tomorrow.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Today it's easy to feel sympathetic and generous to others. In part, this is because you feel fortunate, but you also have a concern for the welfare of those who are less fortunate.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You feel content today, which is why you are happy to work behind the scenes. Your busy pace lately has been a bit exhausting, and you know it!

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
A conversation with a friend or a member of a group might encourage you to be more ambitious about your future goals. Consider these today; however, wait until tomorrow to finalize anything.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
People notice you today. They might even learn information about you. Just be aware of this in case you want to guard your privacy. Be aware of your reputation.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Do something different today, because you are upbeat and eager to explore new situations. In particular, you want to learn something new that interests you. Travel if you can.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
In many ways, you will benefit from others today. Someone might do you a favor or make a promise. Wait to find out if this promise will ring true.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9



THE FUTURE IS



Digital School Technical Design College prepares you for a future in Building Information Modeling / Management (BIM).

86% of designers surveyed in the Canadian Architecture, Engineering & Construction industry indicated they would be using BIM within the next year.*

*NBS International BIM Report 2016

Will you be ready?



FOR MORE INFORMATION
780.414.0200
digitalschool.ca

Bring home a



HONDA

WHEATON
HONDA



2017 CIVIC SEDAN LX

TruePRICE
\$22,178* plus
gst only



Stk#Z2190 6 CVT Automatic Transmission. Automatic climate control, display audio system with Honda Link, wifi tethering, Apple Car Play/Android Auto, multi-angle rear view camera, 158 HP 2L i-VTEC 4 cylinder engine, and much more.

JUST ARRIVED!

2017 ACCORD SEDAN LX CVT



TruePRICE **\$27,459*** plus
gst only

Stk#X1530 2.4 L CVT, 185HP, Alloys, Bluetooth, Apple/Android Car Play, Multi-view Back Up Camera, Wi-Fi Tethering.

ALL-NEW!

2017 CIVIC HATCHBACK TURBO LX CVT



TruePRICE **\$24,411*** plus
gst only

Stk#Y3688. 174-hp, 1.5-litre, 16-valve, Direct Injection, DOHC, turbocharged 4-cylinder, Variable Ratio Electric Power-Assisted Rack-and-Pinion Steering (EPS), Drive-by-Wire Throttle System, ECON mode button and Econ Assist system, HandsFreeLink bilingual Bluetooth

ALL-NEW!

2017 RIDGELINE SPORT



TruePRICE **\$41,441*** plus
gst only

Stk#Y2850. 3.5-litre, 24-valve, Direct Injection, SOHC, i-VTEC® V6 engine with 280 hp, ECON mode button, Intelligent Variable Torque Management (i-VTM4™) AWD system, Intelligent Traction Management System (Snow/Sand/Mud)

2016 FIT EX AUTO

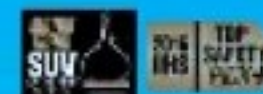


TruePRICE **\$22,784*** plus
gst only

Stk#X8379. 60" alloy wheels, 1 touch power moonroof with tilt feature, Honda lane watch blind spot display. Automatic transmission (CVT), display audio system with Honda Link, heated front seats, VSA with traction control, text message function, power windows and mirrors, 130 HP 1.5L i-VTEC 4 cylinder engine, and much more.

PLUS A
**\$1,500
BONUS***

2016 CR-V LX AWD



TruePRICE **\$30,245** CASH
- \$3000 INCENTIVE | **\$27,245*** plus
gst only

Stk#X5682. Model RM4H3GE1 - 185HP 2.4L 16 valve direct injection iVtec Earth dreams technology, multi angle rear view camera, heated front seats, VSA with traction control.

COMPLIMENTARY SHUTTLE SERVICE TO CENTURY PARK LRT

wheatonhonda.com



WHEATON
HONDA

9688 - 34th ave.

780.463.7888 • 1.866.463.7885



*\$1,500 bonus available on any new 2016 Fit model and must be delivered by January 3, 2017. Bonus can be combined with lease or finance rates advertised by HCFI and will be deducted from the negotiable vehicle price after taxes. Price includes freight, PDI, block heater, locking lug nuts, theft protection, tire and rim protection, air tax, tire levy and AMVIC fee. Vehicles may not be exactly as illustrated. Offer ends January 3, 2017. Vehicles available at time of printing. See dealer for details.